

# THE AMERICAN

JOURNAL OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, THE ARTS, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

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## THE AMERICAN.

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# THE AMERICAN.

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1885.

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## REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE last hours of Congressional ways require watching. They have become notorious for the sudden proposal and passage of mischievous legislation, which is effected by schemes of log-rolling, secretly elaborated during the session. There are signs of attempts of this kind already, and nothing but the political diversity of the two branches gives us assurance of their want of success. One of these, we venture to say, is Mr. RANDALL's proposal to create an American navy by competition among ship constructors and inventors, and by indefinite appropriations to be at the disposal of the incoming administration. If Mr. RANDALL really has the good of the navy at heart, and thinks his plan the best for its restoration, he should have put it before the country early in the session. If it is a sudden inspiration—and it certainly is not a happy one—then let it go over to the next session for mature consideration. But let him not expect that a Republican Senate is going to authorize Mr. CLEVELAND's administration to draw *ad libitum* from the national Treasury for the construction of a navy or any other purpose.

Another is the bill reported by a House committee authorizing the admission to our registration of certain vessels which are to be built abroad for a proposed American company. Vessels and company are both very much in the air, and neither would derive any substantial benefit from being placed under the flag of a government which has no navy to protect them. It may be wise to stop the cry for "Free Ships" by repealing the registration laws passed at the beginning of the government. But if so, let it be done deliberately and with ample consideration of all the consequences.

THE U. S. Senate will be much changed after the 4th of March. Here are at least three Democratic members to go out of it into the new Cabinet—BAYARD, LAMAR and GARLAND. There will be three seats vacant—those from Illinois and Oregon, in which no choice has been made, and from New Hampshire, in which State the Legislature does not meet until June, so that a vacancy meanwhile exists. Then there are several Senators who have not been re-elected: Mr. EVARTS succeeds Mr. LAPHAM, from New York; Mr. PAYNE succeeds Mr. PENDLETON, from Ohio; Mr. JONES succeeds Mr. WALKER, from Arkansas; Mr. EUSTIS succeeds Mr. JONAS, from Louisiana; ex-Governor STANFORD comes from California, in place of Mr. FARLEY; Mr. WILSON succeeds Mr. GROOME, from Maryland; Secretary TELLER takes the place

Mr. HILL now holds, from Colorado; Mr. BLACKBURN succeeds Mr. WILLIAMS, from Kentucky, and Mr. SPOONER takes the place of Mr. CAMERON, from Wisconsin. Here there are nine Senators to retire, besides the three who go into the Cabinet, and the three vacancies being added, make fifteen changes in all, not counting the recent advent of Mr. CHACE, from Rhode Island, to fill the vacancy left by Mr. ANTHONY's death. The Senate which will sit to consider Mr. CLEVELAND's nominations will be quite a different body from that now in session.

The Democrats lose a good deal when GARLAND, LAMAR and BAYARD go out. They also lose by the substitution of a Republican for a Democrat from California, as will be further the case when a Republican is elected from Oregon in place of Mr. SLATER (Dem.). They lose, we should say, by taking PAYNE for PENDLETON from Ohio. But the Republican line is strengthened rather than otherwise. It gets EVARTS a very strong man, and CHACE, an excellent recruit, while it holds all its men of ability and experience, including such veterans as MORRILL, EDMUNDS, HOAR, SHERMAN, ALLISON and HARRISON. Republicans may, on the whole, feel confident of the contest, so far as the Senate is concerned.

THE State Department is at last getting out its promised volume on the comparative statistics of labor and wages in Europe and America. In some quarters there is complaint that the book was not issued during the Presidential canvass, when it might have been used as part of the defense of the protective policy. So far as we can recollect there was no scarcity of figures on that subject last summer. Mr. PORTER's excellent *Tribune* letters furnished an abundance of materials. The report of Colonel WRIGHT, comparing the Massachusetts industries with those of England, were available equally. In truth, what was needed for a vigorous tariff fight was not facts or figures, but Free Traders. They grow on every bush now, but in the months before the election they were nearly as scarce as snakes in Ireland. Mr. HURD was the only man of them who did not pull down his flag and run to cover, when they found that was to be the issue, and the appeal was made to the American workman against their theories. If there was another it was President ELIOT, of Harvard, who frankly avows this as the reason for his bolt.

On this question of the comparative rate of wages, as Senator CHACE remarks, the Free Traders have been forced to abandon

their old ground. Instead of denying that the rate of wages is higher in America than in England, they now contend that the higher rate only shows how excessive and unreasonable the rate of profits on manufacturing must be. The manufacturer could not pay such wages if he were not getting enormous profits. This bit of reasoning, borrowed from Professor CAIRNES, of Galway, requires as a preliminary argument that the joint earnings of labor and capital shall be divided everywhere in the same proportion. But this is demonstrably false. In England capital takes a larger proportion than in America, as is shown by the fact that while English wealth is greater than American, and therefore the total earnings are greater, the rate of wages is 62 per cent lower. In other words, the working-man gets a larger slice in America than in Europe, while the profits of manufacture are no greater.

WHEN MR. BLAIR pressed the bill to prohibit the importation of labor, it was said by the enemies of that measure that this was a dodge of the Republican Senators to evade a vote on the bill to forfeit the Texas Pacific land grant. It appears to their confusion that the Senate has had time for the discussion of both measures, and that nearly every Republican Senator voted for the forfeiture. In truth the Senate is not pressed for time. It has taken action on every important measure brought before it thus far, and has not been impeded by the pressure of the appropriation bills. Up to within a week of adjournment not a single one of the more important of these bills, unless we so consider that for the Post-office Department, had been sent up from the House. That bill and the bill for the Agricultural Bureau, had been passed. And the decks were clear for such discussion as time permitted of the greater appropriation bills. If there should be an extra session of Congress—there will be, of course, an executive session of the Senate for the convenience of the new President—the blame will be due to the House alone. The waste of time over the jobbery in the River and Harbor bill has been especially vexatious and unworthy of the representatives of the American people. \*

THE national observance of WASHINGTON's birthday was not the less marked because it fell on Sunday this year. As a result, the observance was divided over three days. On Saturday came the final dedication of the national monument at the capital. On Sunday there was a very general reference to the anniversary in the sermons, and

on Monday there was a suspension of business, the day being a public holiday in most places.

The commemoration at Washington was honored by an address from the pen of Mr. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, which Mr. LONG, of Massachusetts, read in the House of Representatives. On two great occasions recently Mr. WINTHROP has given the country a thrill of pleasure. His oration on the centennial Fourth of July rose above all others in its weighty earnestness and its fine appreciation of the deeper things in our national life. Of itself it would have designated him as the fit orator for the Yorktown commemoration, and his address on that occasion fully justified the selection. It was especially able in its presentation of those things about which Americans feel the most, and yet feel the greatest hesitation to discuss. His Washington oration was briefer, and not so impressive, but it was worthy of association with the other three. In the natural course of things we cannot have Mr. WINTHROP much longer with us. His feeble health tells already of the approach of the time when he will have joined the majority. When that time comes, it will be felt as a loss to the whole country. In him the nation's past still speaks its impressive lessons to our generation.

THE monument to GEORGE WASHINGTON, at the National Capital, is completed, and the celebration of this is made, appropriately, a public and formal occasion by Congress. It has been nearly forty years since the corner-stone was laid, and the long delay in the construction, during which for many years the unfinished shaft stood a mute reproach to the nation, has been often severely commented on. But the fame of WASHINGTON is not for a day, but for all time, and forty years is, after all, but a brief period in the life of a great nation. More than this, the appreciation of WASHINGTON is sustained and renewed in each generation of Americans. The study of the history of the Revolution, and of the fifteen years that succeeded it, has given to us of to-day the same high estimate of GEORGE WASHINGTON's character as that which was formed in the early days by his contemporaries, and was handed down by them to their children. The fullest examination of his career, the most patient analysis of his service, and a study of the relations he bore to the surrounding circumstances of his time, all serve to convince us how valuable his life was to the Republic in its struggle for Independence and in the period of building the national foundations. So steady, so honest, so sagacious—not brilliant, but yet wise—so true, so unshaken, so patriotic a man has fallen to the possession of few people in their hours of trial. Much as we revere him, the estimate placed upon him by observers in other countries is full as high as ours. The day will never come when he will be forgotten, and the tall shaft erected in his honor by the American people at their great capital will forever honor them as well.

MR. CLEVELAND has given just offense by the open disregard he has shown of the nat-

ional day of rest during the negotiations which precede his entry upon office. It was to Mr. GARFIELD's honor that he kept the Sunday strictly even amid the excitements of the convention which finally nominated him. It generally has been the practice of our Presidents to abstain from any business except the most urgent on that day. In one who comes of a notably clerical family, and whose father was and brother is a Presbyterian minister, this deference to the popular feeling, if it were nothing more, might be expected. And it is of general advantage that a break be made in the excitements and business anxieties of the country apart from any religious use of the day. It is needful for the national sanity, even though there were no God to worship and no spiritual communion to cultivate. A President-elect has a responsibility in this matter. His every act is telegraphed over the country, and his disregard of any obligation is sure to weaken its hold upon many of the less established sort.

MR. CLEVELAND's Cabinet at this writing is still without formal announcement, and probably will remain so until he enters upon his office. If common report can be trusted, however, Mr. BAYARD is to be Secretary of War, Mr. MANNING Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. LAMAR Secretary of the Interior, Mr. GARLAND Attorney General and Mr. VILAS Postmaster General. This leaves the War and Navy Departments unsettled, with the probability that Mr. WHITNEY will have the latter, and a Massachusetts man, Judge ENDICOTT or Congressman COLLINS, the other. Mr. MANNING's selection will cause much heart burning amongst the ex-Republican element in New York and Boston. But they have no right to be surprised. It was to MANNING that Mr. CLEVELAND owed his control of the New York delegation to Chicago and his nomination to the Presidency. Mr. MANNING remained his next friend and confidential adviser all through the canvass. A member of the Cabinet he certainly will be, either one of the sacred seven or that eighth who has more weight than the whole seven. Perhaps it is better for the country that he should have the responsibility as well as the sweets of power. Certainly it will be better for the others of the Cabinet that Mr. MANNING should give Mr. CLEVELAND advice before their faces rather than behind their backs. They will be the better able to meet his arguments if they hear them. It is true that Mr. MANNING's presence may be intended as a check upon the Presidential aspirations of the other Cabinet officers. But even by this the country will gain rather than lose. No man ever served his country the better in any capacity for having that bee in his bonnet.

THIS has been a rough and hard winter. The inclement weather, the dull business, slack employment, low wages, troubles abroad, social ferment, apprehensions of class conflict, have been supplemented lately by fires and distressful losses of life. Is this the good time that we were promised last November?

ILLINOIS and Oregon have not yet chosen Senators. In Oregon the Legislature has adjourned without effecting a choice, as the Republican majority could not unite upon any candidate. The Governor must appoint, and the next Legislature must elect. But the next Legislature may have a Democratic majority.

In Illinois Mr. MORRISON still fails to muster the whole force of the Democracy. This is due to the repugnance felt for his Free Trade ideas. There are Democratic constituencies in that State which would not thank their Representative in the Legislature for sending a Free Trader to the United States Senate. As each party is determined, nothing but the death of some member can result in a choice. Several members are very seriously ill, and are not the better from being forced from their beds to attend an exciting session of the Legislature. In such cases pairing might be allowed.

NEW YORK has an excitement over the question of the extent to which freedom of worship shall exist in the orphan schools, reformatories, prisons and other public institutions in which the criminal or dependent classes are gathered. At this distance it seems to us but just that the Roman Catholic priesthood should enjoy the free access they claim to members of their own communion who are resident in such places. It is true that New York is a Protestant community, but we always have supposed an entire and generous toleration had become a common principle of Protestantism. It cannot be meant either that State-aided institutions are to be used as agencies to proselyte Roman Catholics, or that these are to be denied the benefits of religious counsel from their own clergy.

The real trouble arises from the State undertaking a great deal more in the way of creating or assisting charities than it ought. The State is the institute of rights, and should give nothing except as of right. It should keep out of charity altogether. That is an idea with which it has nothing to do, and which it should leave to individuals and to the churches. Then it would have fewer of these denominational puzzles to solve.

IN our own city the reorganization of the Almshouse raises a problem of just the same kind. The best reform of the Almshouse would be its entire abolition, and the absolute prohibition of any outlay of money from the city or State Treasury for charitable relief. The State never should meddle with such matters except in some great emergency, when prompt and collective action alone will suffice to meet the need. A collapse of our industrial system, for instance, would justify the opening of public works to give employment to those who sought work. But the mere relief of destitution might be left to the instincts of Christian charity in individuals and in churches. The other way of proceeding is of very recent origin. England formed her workhouse system in Queen ELIZABETH's time. Scotland had none until the present century; Ireland none until 1835. In France the State assists societies which relieve dis-

tress, but has no almshouses. LOUISE MICHEL hailed the English workhouse as the most frankly socialistic institution she saw during her visit to England. Other countries leave the relief of poverty absolutely to individuals. In Italy this is the case, and there is rather a superabundance than a deficiency of charitable giving. In our city and in several others the giving of outdoor relief has been abolished without causing any marked distress or adding to the almshouses' population. The sum spent formerly in Philadelphia in this way amounted to from \$50,000 to \$80,000 annually. It would be a bold and a wise measure to exclude all but the "defective" classes from indoor relief also.

THE Record points out that while it is more or less difficult to arrange the formation of the Congressional districts throughout the State, in order to make 19 Republican and 9 Democratic, there is some difficulty, on the other hand in fixing one in Philadelphia for Mr. RANDALL. This city is entitled to five members of the House, and something over, and as it gives a neat 20,000 Republican majority whenever things are in their normal condition, there would be an average majority in the five districts of 4000. In order to get around this, and protect Mr. RANDALL an oddly shaped district has to be made for him.

NEWFOUNDLAND has leave to open negotiations with the United States with regard to the Fisheries question. We presume the same leave has been extended to the Dominion of Canada, or will be if she desires it. But our friends may be assured of several points before they begin negotiations. We will not refer the matter to the decision of any tribunal in which they are virtually two to one. We will look a little more closely into the figures submitted in the sworn testimony of their government experts. We will send a representative of the United States, who either is an abstainer or has a better head for their champagne. And we will not pay a guinea a pound for codfish, and then give them free leave to bring their fish into our ports.

MR. GLADSTONE found his troubles all about him after the reopening of Parliament. The opposition rushed upon him and his associates in the Ministry with perplexing questions, resolutions of want of confidence, denunciatory speeches, and all the other machinery by which parliamentary government strengthens the hand of the executive in cases of national danger. We wish him well through all these troubles and we believe he will get through them. He is the only English leader who retains the idea that justice is due to the Soudanese, as well as honor to the memory of General GORDON. Whatever aggressive measures against EL MAHDI he may be obliged to sanction, he still declares his purpose to evacuate the Soudan and even Egypt at the earliest moment possible. He regrets the capture of Khartoum as delaying that step. Were he to be driven from power the Tories would come in as a

war party, and nothing less than the recapture of the Soudan and the virtual annexation of Egypt would satisfy them. In spite of his blunders in attacking Egypt, Mr. GLADSTONE stands for justice, and his defeat would be a far worse calamity than the death of a regiment of GORDONS.

ENGLAND has wrenched herself loose from one complication, and has found herself in another. She has come to terms with France by agreeing to such a settlement of the Egyptian finances as France must accept, and by giving France some special and unusual advantages in the Chinese war. French vessels of war are permitted to put into Hong Kong for coal and for repairs, and they are not to interrupt English commerce in exercising the right of search. As France is not formally at war with China, this concession is simply unmeaning, unless it is a cover for the favors to French ships, and that in turn is for agreeing to a settlement in Egypt.

On the other hand news comes that Russian troops are close upon Herat, the western fortress of Afghanistan. Herat is a good distance from the Indian frontier, and is a very strong fortress. But the presence of the Russians in its vicinity is ominous, as showing that they do not mean to respect the neutrality of Afghanistan as a common barrier between the two Empires. The news has thrown London into a fresh alarm, and has caused rumor—which we do not credit—that several crack regiments recently embarked for the East are to proceed to India without stopping in Egypt. A Russian attack on the Afghans would not involve immediate hostilities on England's part. The Afghans are quite capable of taking care of themselves, with a little quiet help and encouragement from the authorities at Calcutta. If they seemed likely to be overborne, then the time would come to give Russia her choice between leaving the country and fighting England.

The news on the Nile is serious enough to justify any dispatch of troops which has taken place. Three generals have fallen; a considerable body of English troops are surrounded and entrenched; the whole British contingent may be overwhelmed before assistance arrives through the accumulation of a great horde of Moslem fanatics on the upper Nile. England is having the most anxious time she has known since Waterloo.

#### POLITICAL ECONOMY IN MASSACHUSETTS.

The Commercial Bulletin, of Boston, takes exception to our statement that Boston is a community in which Free Trade notions are tending to throw the people out of sympathy with our national policy. It calls attention to the fact that Massachusetts made a gain of two Protectionists in her Congressional delegation last year, and that the manufacturers who have served as Free Trade lecturers of the Tariff Reform Club are imported from other States. We are glad to put on record any facts which go to show that the Bay State is sound in its economic views. But we are not reassured by all that the Bulletin

says on this question. Nor are we moved to unfair judgment of the facts by any narrowness of feeling towards Massachusetts. We entertain the heartiest regard for that Commonwealth, and we never take a fresh look at it without a growing respect for the people who have made so much of a region naturally so unpromising.

Our fears rest on facts: (1) A member of the Tariff Commission of 1882 said that if he were to judge of the prevailing sentiment of the communities they visited by the evidence presented at their meetings he would say that Boston is the centre of Free Trade sentiment in the United States.

(2) The rising generation for the past twenty years has been learning Free Trade, and nothing else, in every school and college of New England in which the subject is taught, with one single exception. Professor BOWEN's voice at Harvard was the last heard on the other side in any New England faculty except Wesleyan, and that has been silenced by his transfer to the chair of philosophy. When Harvard and Yale wish their students to hear what may be said in defense of the purpose of the American people to protect their industries they have to go to some other State for a speaker.

(3) The fruits of all this are to be seen in the Free Trade bolt from the Republican party, which nearly lost Mr. BLAINE the vote of Massachusetts. That Free Trade was the dominant motive of that bolt we think beyond dispute. There were individuals who had better motives, but the mass of bolters had not. And nothing but the opposite bolt of Irish voters from the Democracy saved the State.

(4) The drift of the newspapers shows how the thought of the community goes. There is in Boston but one morning and one evening newspaper which advocates the protective policy. There are at least four weeklies, *The Bulletin*, *The Beacon*, *The Commonwealth* and the *The Pilot*, which are for Protection. But the dailies are on the other side, and the change of base on the part of *The Advertiser* is ominous.

(5.) The attitude even of many manufacturers in the State is far from sound and satisfactory. The cry for free wool and for the removal of the duties from "raw materials" generally, finds more response in that State than any other. And even the Protectionist newspapers speak of the surplus, at times, as though it must be got rid of by reducing the tariff.

We thank the *Bulletin* for its kind invitation to take a winter look at Boston. That is exactly what we did this winter, and our whole impression of the drift of public opinion, as thus obtained, confirms our fears as to Massachusetts.

#### SOME NEW RESEARCHES AMONG THE METEORS.

The little "shooting stars" that one sees more or less of any clear evening seem to the casual observer to have no method in their outbreak, or their motion. They appear to dart about as often in one direction as in another, and, except in brightness, to have no marks distinguishing one from the

others. But, as so often happens in nature, the close student of them sees vastly more than this; sees, indeed, enough to make them the foundations of delightful theories about world-building and force-creating, not altogether without legitimate support. Mr. Proctor, reasoning in his brilliant but oftentimes inaccurate fashion, makes the sustenance of much of the solar energy, and the solar mass as well, dependent on them, and the far more profound Prof. Benjamin Peirce credits them with giving us on the earth more heat than we derive from the sun. They have been variously accounted the products of terrestrial and lunar volcanoes, the *debris* of shattered comets, and original condensations of the primitive nebula.

The facts concerning meteors have been gathered together for the most part by observers who, without other instrument than their own senses, have watched hour after hour and night after night, recording and mapping out what they saw, and drawing obvious deductions from their data thus accumulated. There is much more work of this kind needing doing. It is of a character well suited to the amateur, and it is a matter of some surprise and more regret that he does not take up the task. Many a young enthusiast, who purchases a small telescope and then goes on in an inconsequent way to look at the moon and planets, the sun and stars, as a pastime, would gain vastly more of pleasure and profit, and besides do something of real value, if he would take some simple field and till it well; and among such fields none would be more productive than the meteors.

Such an observer would notice very soon that the meteors do not shoot at random, but a large number of them on a given night will appear to radiate from a definite point in the sky. He will notice, too, in course of time, that such as do thus radiate from the same point have a family likeness, resembling each other in rate of motion, in color, in leaving behind them or not leaving behind them a streak of short duration. About the 10th of August he will observe that most of them start out from a point in Perseus, that they are generally bright, not very rapid, and are streak-leaving; that on and about October 19th there will be a collection of fainter and more rapid meteors radiating from a point above the head of Orion; and so on.

It is generally recognized that these meteors are little bodies moving rapidly through space, that, having penetrated the earth's atmosphere, are consumed by their friction against it. Far more heat would be generated by the stoppage of their motion than by their actual combustion. Thus rendered visible, they dart along till entirely burnt up, leaving behind them a train of glowing ashes, or in rare cases, being large or refractory, they fall to the earth and, under the name of Aerolite or Meteorite, are treasured as curiosities.

If, then, these bodies come from outside the earth's atmosphere, the radiation from a point can only be apparent. Its explanation is, that moving in *parallel* lines, these lines, by the effect of perspective, become divergent when projected from the observer on to the concave sphere of the heavens. The "radiant point," then, in reality shows simply from what point in space these little bodies are moving.

Now, from the direction which meteors move through the atmosphere, it is possible to compute the paths which they have in

space. The computation gone through with in the case of certain August and November meteors revealed the fact that they, like the earth, were moving in orbits around the sun; only, that while in the case of the earth the orbit is nearly a circle, the meteors move in a path which is a greatly elongated ellipse, reaching far beyond Neptune, and intersecting the orbit of the earth in the points where that planet is each year on the 10th of August and 13th of November respectively. As the little meteors are scattered more or less profusely all around this ellipse, they constitute in reality a ring of bodies chasing each other round and round the sun. Being not very evenly distributed, especially in the case of the November meteors, when the earth gets into a group of them, we have abundant "showers," and in other years there is a great scarcity. Now every thirty-three years the shower comes on in great profusion, simply because there is one main group which takes this long to go around the sun.

Having thus located in space the paths of several of these collections of meteoric bodies, it was found that these agreed almost exactly with the paths of certain known comets. Again, a comet has been known to disappear, and a shower of meteors took its place; so there seemed to be no escape from the conclusion that comets and meteors were in some way closely connected, and that the counterpart of the periodic comets in the realm of meteors were these bodies which regularly described their paths around the sun.

We are now prepared to appreciate the bearing of the discovery which an English gentleman, W. F. Denning, has just announced. He finds that meteors appear to radiate from a common point, not only for a few successive nights, but that in some cases the radiation has been observed for many months. Now we know that in six months the earth moves to the opposite side of the sun—some 186,000,000 miles away from its first position. If, then, the meteor drift is parallel in two points so distant from each other and in all intermediate places, it is evident there must be, not a narrow ring of meteors encircling the sun, but a broad belt of moving bodies drifting past the sun and planets, not strictly members of the solar system, and moving with so great a velocity of their own that the attraction of the sun is insufficient to deflect them materially from their original direction. Whence they derived this velocity it is useless to conjecture. We know that comets sometimes thus come in from outside the limits of the solar system, and we have been led to expect a relation between the two classes of bodies.

It is evident that the motion of the earth would affect the apparent direction which the meteor had in shooting through our atmosphere. Mr. Denning does not find that this changes the radiant point of the meteor more than one degree, which indicates that its original velocity was at least fifty times that of the earth in its orbit, or something like 850 miles a second. Now the greatest velocity which body can possibly acquire by falling into the sun by the attraction of that body, or in moving in an orbit around it, is only about half of this. So that we again conclude that the meteoric velocity is due to some projection or impulse entirely outside of our system.

If these facts be established by further observations, we will have to form new conceptions of the condition of the space through which the great worlds move. We may not regard it as peopled with bodies only in close proximity to the sun's, but that all about through it are messengers from one system to another. In one sense, space is filled with meteoric bodies, and though the vacancies between them may be great compared with their combined

volume, yet were they luminous the eye would see them as a continuous haze of light. They are forever raining down on the earth and the other large bodies as they come within the influence of their attraction. The earth is growing in mass by their addition.

Whether the masses which have reached us unconsumed belong to the periodic or the external meteors we cannot tell. But so far as they have been analyzed they seem to reveal no new materials. Our experience on the earth seems to have brought us in contact with every substance which the celestial visitor brings in. This is proof, so far as it goes, of the uniformity in composition of the different bodies in space, and, added to the revelations of the spectroscope in the same direction, indicates a common origin of all the worlds "in the beginning."

ISAAC SHARPLESS.

#### THE CLAIMS OF INDUSTRIAL ART.

The statistics of the Paris Art Schools, given in a recent issue of THE AMERICAN, in Mr. Theodore Child's letter, are suggestive enough of the spirit in which art is too often studied nowadays, and they indicate with so much clearness the lesson which students and educators alike should learn, as to justify their repetition, and some attention to them in this place. There are, according to Mr. Child's estimate, two thousand students of art in Paris alone, who give place to a fresh swarm once in three years, and when one thinks of the throngs who never get so far as Paris, but who struggle on in every city and every hamlet of this and every other country, in the hope of some day going there, the calculation assumes appalling proportions.

The question forces itself upon thoughtful men to what does all this lead? How many of this crowd of students ever amount to anything in the profession they have chosen? Any one who looks into the matter must admit that the answer to this question is even more appalling than that obtained in the first instance. What does become of them, then?—those I mean for whom the study of art means anything more than a more or less graceful accomplishment, without regard to the more serious business of earning a living. Mr. Childs gives the answer in the most suggestive paragraph of his letter. "Very few," he says, "will obtain celebrity, and the majority, after a few vain efforts, will become teachers, or go into some art industry, where lucrative positions are readily obtained." In the case of those who become teachers it might not be unprofitable, but I am afraid it would be unkind, to inquire how many are occupied in perpetuating their own mistakes and in multiplying their own failures, the while the industries which could absorb any amount of this wasted artistic energy are here in America, at least, simply starving for what is thus lost in the shallows of disappointment. Now, the lesson which all this ought to teach us is manifestly this: that something more ought to be done for the industries than to trust their fertilization to the waste waters of the central spring of high art, which find their way to an uncertain destination, if they find it at all, by all sorts of devious ways.

The art in which the million is interested, and in which alone it can hope to succeed, is, and always must be, industrial art, and some industrial purpose should distinguish such education in art as either the State or the liberality of public-spirited citizens undertakes to provide. Nor does this imply any lowering of either the standards or the aims of schools of art. It does mean the setting of every student of fair capacity who

enters them at something which he can reasonably hope to learn to do well, and for which society has no end of need, instead of assigning to the thousand a task which only the one will ever perform. It means gradations of attainment to suit gradations of capacity; degrees of opportunity instead of degrees of failure.

Moreover, it is in the industries that the foundations of all art are laid, and no one need fear that its industries can be neglected while these are fostered. We do not water the flower, but the root. Splendid results in art have always been developed from and associated with all that was admirable in craftsmanship, and if it is ever to flourish among us here in America it must spring as naturally from a like industrial power—the power, that is, of doing thoroughly at first and gracefully afterwards, the things upon which all civilization depends, from good and tasteful workmanship the finer arts grow as naturally as the sparks fly upward. Again, how much would the cause of sound education be served if students could be taught how much better it is to do modest things well than to make dismal failures out of ambitious undertakings. I know Mr. Lowell's line about the crime consisting in the low aim and not in the failure, but the application of the maxim to art is not obvious, and we have had too much of that kind of mystification already. Let us teach the rising generation that it is better to hammer brass and iron into serviceable and beautiful shapes than it is to multiply bad pictures and hideous statues. Let us teach them to draw, to paint and to carve as accomplished workmen and tasteful designers ought to do, instead of trying to teach them what we know at the outset they can never learn, and we shall not only be doing them and the State a greater service, but we shall serve art itself more efficiently and more directly than we do by our present methods of academical instruction. For we should not only ground the student while he is young and teachable in fundamental principles and processes, which our present false methods too often teach him to despise, but we should rid the Schools of Fine Art of the incubus of a horde of incompetents which weighs upon them everywhere at present.

The need of art education is constant and pressing wherever the higher forms of civilization are to be promoted, but popular forms of it, to be efficient, must be dominated by an industrial purpose, and the energy which it develops must be directed into industrial channels or it will fail to accomplish the ends for which it is established. It must find its application as it goes along at the loom, the press, the bench and the forge.

L. W. M.

#### REVIEWS.

**HARRIET MARTINEAU.** By Mrs. Fenwick Miller. ("Famous Women" Series.) Boston: Roberts Brothers.

The autobiography of Harriet Martineau which was, in spite of the adverse criticisms engendered by its severe personalities, the literary event of the year in which it appeared, disappointed its readers by the abruptness of its conclusion at a period twenty years before its author's death occurred, and this disappointment the meagre details of those later years furnished by Mrs. Chapman did little to allay. The supply of this chief lack in the record of Miss Martineau's life is made the distinguishing feature of the volume devoted to her biography in the "Famous Women" series.

It has been generally thought that the life work of this indomitably industrious writer might be regarded as finished, or nearly so, at the time of the conclusion of her autobiography in 1855, when she withdrew into seclusion and resigned herself to

a state of hopeless invalidism, and it will be a surprise to many to find how large a part of her literary work was done in the succeeding twenty-one years, during which she lingered in the shadow of death. It is true that she published no more volumes under her own name, except the collection of her biographical essays, but her anonymous contributions to the *Daily News*, *Once a Week*, *Household Words*, *Westminster Review* and other periodicals amount to a really amazing mass of writing. The record of her literary work during one year, 1861, comprises 109 leading articles in the *Daily News* on a great variety of political, social and economical subjects. The biographical sketches afterwards collected under the title of "Representative Men," other long articles contributed to *Once a Week*, and her letters published in this country in the *Anti-Slavery Standard*, give some idea of the ceaseless industry with which she wrote and how, fully secluded and suffering though she was, she kept herself in the current of the times. The details of her domestic life during this period of invalidism, as narrated by Mrs. Miller and illustrated by extracts from Miss Martineau's letters, enhance the impression of her activity of mind and of her benevolent interest in the welfare of all about her.

Mrs. Miller considers that Harriet Martineau has done herself great injustice in her autobiography, and pronounces it "hard and censorious, displaying vanity, and, in short, the least worthy of her true self of all the writings of her life." It may be doubted, however, whether Mrs. Miller's well-meant efforts for the rehabilitation of her heroine are as successful as could be wished. The devoted friendship of Miss Martineau for Henry Atkinson, her sudden assumption of his peculiar theological, or rather anti-theological views, her thorough-going championship of all the vagaries of his opinions, may be regarded as instances of unaccountable intellectual infatuation; they are not made more respectable by being now explained as the results of a personal attachment, unsought and unreciprocated, which can only be regarded as ludicrous in a woman of such mature age toward a man much younger than herself and greatly her intellectual inferior. For the rest, it is remarkable how little the utter change of the religious views of this really good woman affected her life. The active beneficence was deeply rooted in a region of spiritual causes which mere opinions were powerless to disturb. Her writings on Political Economy, which gave her her greatest fame, are but little read at the present day, in which there obsolete arguments would perhaps only provoke smiles; but as an impetus to thought and intellectual activity their power was great in the time in which they were written almost beyond what we can now realize.

**LIFE OF FORTUNY.** From the French of Baron Davillier. Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

Mariano Fortuny is one of the most noticeable figures in modern art. He was barely on the threshold of middle age when he died, and the world in that event suffered a loss far out of the common; but in the short time it was given him to work he accomplished results that may be fairly termed of a gigantic kind. These results were not so much in matter as in manner. Fortuny had, in a sense, hardly settled himself as an artist when he died; that is, he was hardly more than beyond the student period, and his pictures, with a very few exceptions, such as those executed for the city of Barcelona in repayment for assistance given him in his studies by the Town Council, were hurriedly executed "pot-boilers," which the painter himself held in small account. His

aims, however, were high; when he found himself even with the world and able to indulge his long-reserved wishes it was his intention to devote himself to elevated composition regardless of immediate return. As a result the bulk of his work is from one point of view slight. From another it is anything but slight—is, indeed, revolutionary. For this artist was a leader among the young moderns who have dared to go directly to nature for their effects of light and color. Thus viewed, Fortuny's work—even the slightest part of it—is a revelation. He showed—what, indeed, did not need showing, still he showed—that the orthodox "color" of the painter is not color at all, if we make the effects of nature the test. He made laughable the brown seas, the mahogany-hued foliage, the countless other perversions on canvas of nature as we see it at every instant. But we do not intend an essay upon Fortuny just here. As to Baron Davillier's book, it is better in idea than in execution. The artist's life was not eventful and the main facts are doubtless set forth here, but the references to the pictures are often confusing. Baron Davillier is not a practiced writer. His style is disjointed and unsatisfactory, and he has suffered, moreover, in this translation.

**THE RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF PHILOSOPHY; A CRITIQUE OF THE BASES OF CONDUCT AND OF FAITH.** By Josiah Royce, Ph. D. Instructor in Philosophy in Harvard College, Pp. XIX and 484. 16mo. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

We shall be much disappointed if America does not discover in Dr. Royce one of her most original and characteristic thinkers and do him honor accordingly. This, we believe, is his first book, and it deals with absolutely the most difficult problems that the human mind can encounter. It is thorough in its philosophical method and in its severity. There is no attempt to save the reader the trouble of consecutive thinking. There is not the least desire to save him from the shock of hearing his most cherished beliefs called into question and made to answer for themselves at the bar of reason. Dr. Royce insists on going right down to the root of things, and on leaving no possible question unasked, if his asking will help to a clearer view of fundamental truth. He has no mercy for the kind of philosophical and religious investigation that resembles the investigation of charges against a statesman by his party associates. He will not whitewash anything or any theory. As he writes: "Surely if God exists, he knows at least as much about philosophy as any of us do. He has at least as much appreciation for a philosophic problem as we can have. And if his own existence presents a fine philosophic problem, he delights therein at least as much as we do. And then he does not like to see that problem half-heartedly handled by timid, whining, trembling men, who constantly apologize to God because the existence of certain fools called atheists forces them to present in very pious language certain traditional proofs of his existence. No, surely, not in this spirit would a rational God, if he exists, have us approach the question. But with at least as much coolness and clearness of head as we try to have when we toil over a problem in mathematics; with as least as merciless an analysis of all that is obscure and doubtful and contradictory in our own confused ideas as we should use in studying science; with at least as much eagerness in finding out the weakness and uncertainty of men's wavering and ill-trained judgments as we should bring to the investigation of an important commercial investment—with at least so much of caution, of diligence, and of doubt we should approach the rational study of the Highest."

The purpose of the book is to ascertain philosophically why we have a religion. Dr. Royce finds three elements in the conception of religion. "A religion must teach some moral code, must in some way inspire a strong feeling of devotion to that code, and so doing, must show something in the nature of things that answers to the code or serves to reinforce the feeling." A philosophy of religion therefore must show what are the ultimate grounds of moral obligation, and must discover what there is in the nature of things which corresponds to and reinforces that obligation. So the first half of the book is given to a philosophy of ethics; the second to a philosophy of theism.

Between those who derive ethics from facts given in our experience of things natural or supernatural, and those who hold that ethics must rest on truths prior to all experience, Dr. Royce holds with the latter. He shows that even the teaching of the Founder of Christianity as to the love of God for His children and the rightfulness and naturalness of returning that love, while a mighty power in ethicizing men, is not yet a philosophy of ethics, as it still is open to men to ask: "Why should I respond to infinite love by loving God and my neighbor?" He admits the strength of the case made by the opponents of an ideal basis for ethics, by the appeal to differences in ethical ideals, and by the contention that all ideals are arbitrary and owe their power to the personal influence of those who first taught them. In this confusion of ideals he finds the root of the profound scepticism which has its utterance in modern poetry since Novalis and Shelley. But in this very scepticism he discerns the presence of the highest and universal ideal. Men sigh over the war of ideals as one without end, thus indicating that the end of this warfare is exactly the ideal of ideals, the universal end to which all are aspiring. And upon this basis he finds an ethic that is both simple and positive, and whose first postulate is that I shall treat my neighbor's life as one with my own. When thus I realize his end with as much force as I do my own, the element of conflict will disappear from our relations and there will be peace between us. It is this moral insight into the moral identity existing between myself and my neighbor that is the organ of ethical perception in man.

We are doing but scanty justice in this dry analysis to the amplitude and vigor of Dr. Royce's argument. Indeed we feel that we are stripping it of all that is characteristic and fascinating, of the plenitude of familiar illustration, the fearlessness of ratiocination, and the lambent play of humor which mark the book as one among a thousand. Of his last quality let the reader take this specimen. He has been using Goethe's "Faust" as an illustration freely, and proceeds:

"The real reason, after all, why *Mephistopheles*' soul could not get *Faust's* soul was that *Faust* could understand the Mephistophilic wit, which was throughout destructive of individualism. The sentimentalists who have no humor is, once for all, given over to the devil, and need sign no contract. He stares into every mirror he passes, and, cursing the luck that makes him move so fast in this world, he murmurs incessantly, 'Verweile doch, du bist so schön.' And so, in the presence of the moral insight, he is forthwith and eternally damned, unless some miracle of grace shall save him. It is noteworthy that one or two of our recent and youngest novelists in this country have gained a certain reputation by sentimental stories of collegiate and post-graduate life that precisely illustrate this simple-minded but abominable spirit. May these young authors repent while there is time, if, indeed, they can repent."

The second half of Dr. Royce's book is

occupied with the discussion of theism. It is more subtle, less characteristically American, and with a looser relation to practical experience. Indeed we fear that much of it is reasoning that nobody can answer, but which nobody will be convinced by. Yet the method is substantially the same as in the ethical discussion. Our author faces the spectres of the mind without the slightest attempt merely to weaken the force of their terror. He passes in review the world-old doubts and shows in how many ways they have gained in force since we have come to know the world more intimately and more extensively, both in itself and its relation to the material universe. He gets no comfort out of evolutionary doctrines of "universal progress," because he sees that progress is a "local incident" in the news of our little corner of the known universe. He takes a dark view of the actual course of things as given in experience, declaring that he finds no proof of the existence of a benevolent Deity, such as the Deists have worshipped, or even the all-loving Father of Christian teaching. In fact, it seems impossible to him to conceive a God worthy of our worship and affection, who is also the causative power that brought the present order of things into existence. He, therefore, rejects the category of cause and effect out of the conception of the divine, and with it the whole notion of creation. In his view the intelligence at the heart of things cannot be a being who stands apart from and over against any real existence. It must all be included as a moment of His own life, to the exclusion of all dualistic conceptions whatever, and yet without falling into the pantheism which would identify God simply with the world of existences we think real. Here is the great difficulty in following Dr. Royce's train of thought, and the careful reading of every page of his book leaves us still in the dark as to much of it. He seems at the end to come to a theism in which God is a mere intelligence without causative power of any kind, and capable of helping men only by his sympathy and the assurance that he understands them. He is the *Roi faineant* of the universe, not indifferent to our fate and fortunes, as the Epicureans thought, but unable to give any substantial help in our battles with ourselves the world and our spiritual enemies. The evil of the world he sees as relative and partial good, which is gathered into harmony in the unity of His all-embracing thought. Such a deity may do for a metaphysician, but the world hardly will find in Dr. Royce's conception the answer to its questions and its cravings.

The finest thing in this second part is the discussion of the alleged relativity of truth. It is a piece of writing that Socrates would have enjoyed to the utmost. The old Greek Sophists never were more cleverly hoist with their own petards than are the moderns who admit the possibility of error but deny the possibility of finding the truth which the error is the contradiction of. The discussion of the relation of the will to the conviction of truth and the perception is nearly as fine, and would be good reading for those who think that belief is not a thing for which any one is morally responsible.

**GREECE IN THE TIMES OF HOMER.** An Account of the Life, Customs and Habits of the Greeks during the Homeric Period. By T. T. Timayenis. Pp. xl. and 302. 12mo. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

Mr. Timayenis is a teacher in New York, who has already published a "History of Greece." He is a Greek by birth, with a warm attachment to his country and a zealous enthusiasm for all that concerns her honor. In this little volume he has collected all those notices of daily life and its surroundings which make the Homeric poems

of so great value and interest to the student of manners and social development. He has followed the work of his countryman, Rangabe, on the "Household Life of the Greeks as Depicted by Homer," as his chief authority. He is familiar with the results of German and English scholarship on the matter in hand, but entertains a not unnatural jealousy of the deference shown to the Germans in the field of Greek scholarship. A modern Greek is apt to think that his position gives him a better right to pronounce upon such matters than can be conceded even to a Hermann or a Boeckh. In this we do not agree with Mr. Timayenis. After all, the Greeks of our day have made but little record in this field, perhaps for reasons which do them honor rather than discredit. One Rangabe is not enough to make a literary reputation that shall cast a lustre over a whole nation.

This very book shows why there is rather a prejudice against the scholarship of the modern Greeks. Mr. Timayenis writes as though he held a brief for the Greeks of Homer's time, and was required to show that whatever they did was altogether lovely and admirable. The book is not judicial in its estimates of Homeric civilization. It makes the most of every case and in all directions. And it isolates the investigation of the subject from the study of similar stages in civilization elsewhere. In other words, it belongs to the stage of sociological investigation which preceded the application of the comparative method. The unfairness into which Mr. Timayenis' zeal leads him is at times somewhat amusing. Thus the Trojans are good enough Greeks to serve as illustrations of conjugal love in one chapter, but in another the reader is warned that Homer does not mean us to confound the two peoples, and that the Trojans in certain matters must have occupied a lower level than the Greeks.

The narrow way of looking at Homer, apart from what is known of parallel stages in social development elsewhere than among the Ionian Greeks, obliges Mr. Timayenis to leave in obscurity many points he might have cleared. Thus Mr. Freeman would have given him light on the heroic stage in political growth. So also in the matters of architectural arrangement touched in the first chapters. Mr. Timayenis will have it that the Greeks could not have been so rude as to let the smoke of their fires escape through a hole in the roof. He does not venture the bold assertion that they had chimneys, but believes they had smoke-escapes in the wall beside the fire. How a hole in the wall behind the fire would create a draft to carry off the smoke, he does not say. The truth is that the Greeks of that and later ages, like the Romans and our own forefathers, had no fireplaces but the open hearth, and no chimneys but the opening in the roof. Hence the solicitude of Telemachus for his father's arms, which were being ruined by long exposure to the smoke of the living-room, just as Vitruvius says that carved work of any kind will be ruined by exposure in a room which has a fire. The Greeks certainly had not reached a point of refinement in this matter to which the Romans of the Imperial period, for whom Vitruvius wrote, were still strangers.

#### BRIEFER NOTICES.

The slight but very pretty little story, "Daddy Darwin's Dovecote; a Country Tale," by Juliana Horatia Ewing, author of "Jackanapes," &c., (Boston: Roberts Brothers), has about it a delightful breath of rural English life, which is enhanced as well as illustrated by the drawings of Randolph Caldecott, which accompany it, and which are of themselves almost enough to tell its simple story. *Jack March* is an Edgeworthian hero of probity, industry and thrift, and his progress to prosperity and

happiness is quite what might be considered the legitimate result of such morality. There is, moreover, a sweeter and purer strain of feeling in his story than is always found in such deductions from utilitarian philosophy.

"Tarantella," by Mathilde Blind, (Boston: Roberts Brothers), is a romance upon the theme of the *tarantismo* or dancing mania, said to result from the bite of the tarantula, and to be only curable by music. It is claimed in this book that the symptoms of this curious disease are real facts, only to be accounted for as "the protean manifestations of hysteria working on the survival of a superstition common in Italy during the seventeenth century." The chief interest of the story of "Tarantella" centres in the fascinating but semi-demoniac figure of the girl possessed by the dancing mania. Her character has a vitality much surpassing that of the angelic but shadowy *Mina* and her lover, *Emanuel*. The scene of the romance is laid in Germany, and the whole story might be mistaken for one of Mrs. Wistar's translations rather than an original specimen of "President's English."

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

The "Life and Letters of John Brown" will be published early in the spring by Messrs. Roberts Brothers. Mr. Frank B. Sanborn is the author and compiler.

Mr. F. S. Pulling is preparing "The Life and Speeches of Lord Salisbury," and Mr. J. H. Leech, under the supervision of the writer, is collecting for publication "The Public Letters of the Right Honorable John Bright."

The Trustees of the John F. Slater Fund account in detail for the distribution of upwards of \$30,000 among twenty-three Southern institutions, almost all of which have been founded by Northern philanthropy since 1865, while every one combines industrial with scholastic training. The report carries conviction as to the immense utility of this noble charity. President Gilman has appended to the report an interesting biographical sketch of the late Mr. Slater.

The *North American Review* is to have a new department, consisting of letters from the public criticising and commenting upon articles which have appeared in the *Review*.

"On a Margin," a novel recently published by Messrs. Fords, Howard & Hulbert, and which has made a good impression, is the work of Mr. Julius Chambers, the Philadelphia correspondent of the *New York Herald*.

Mr. Swinburne is collecting for publication his scattered essays.

The Belgian periodical press of the present day comprises about 650 newspapers and magazines. There are seventy daily papers, which is a very fair number for a country whose entire population only just exceeds that of the London area of taxation and police.

It is proposed to publish the letters of the late Mr. Hepworth Dixon, together with a brief memoir.

The spring trade book sale will commence about the middle of April in the rooms of Messrs. George A. Leavitt & Co., Astor place, New York.

The life of William Lloyd Garrison, by one of his sons, will appear serially in one of the magazines. The publication will soon be commenced.

Mr. John B. Piet, long known as one of the leading publishers of Catholic books and of the *Mirror*, has finally severed his connection with the Baltimore Publishing Company, of which he had been manager under the receivership lately ordered when the concern got into embarrassment. Under his management the *Mirror* became one of

the leading Catholic papers in the United States. Mr. Piet expects hereafter to publish subscription books.

Foreign papers announce the death at Jena, aged 70, of Dr. K. V. Stoy, the Professor of Education, a man of some celebrity not only in Germany. After a professorship at Heidelberg he founded a school at Jena, which acquired a European reputation. He was also the director of the seminary at Jena—a training school for schoolmasters.

As a means of disposing the French to travel (they are notoriously the poorest travelers in the world), and thus to make them better colonists, Mr. Ernest Michel recommends, in *La Reforme Sociale*, world-tours on the Cook system.

A new weekly paper intended for Sunday and general reading is to be issued by the Methodist Book Concern, with Dr. J. H. Vincent as editor. There will be a special department devoted to the Oxford League, a new organization designed to stimulate interest in the history of Methodism.

Mr. Walter H. Page, editor of the Raleigh (N. C.) *Chronicle*, is preparing a work on the negro problem. Mr. Page has made various valuable contributions to the discussion of Southern questions.

The novel published a few months ago, called "My Ducts and My Daughters," now appears to have been the work of a new literary partnership. A second edition is announced in London with the names of Hay Hunter and Walter Whyte as authors.

Under the title of "Old Times; a Picture of Social Life at the End of the Eighteenth Century," Mr. John Ashton is going to issue a work similar to his "Social Life in the Reign of Queen Anne." Avoiding history, except in so far as to make the work intelligible, it aims solely to give a fair account of the life of the middle class.

Mr. Bullen's edition of Middleton, which is to make part of Mr. Nimmo's handsome edition of "The Elizabethan Dramatists," will fill eight volumes. The first four will be ready in March.

The demand in England for Mr. Cross's Life of George Eliot was so great that the first impression, a large one, was exhausted immediately on publication, and a second edition had at once to be put to press.

Messrs. R. K. Mann and J. R. Ware are engaged upon a life of Colonel Burnaby, containing considerable matter from manuscripts left by Burnaby when he started for Egypt.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* has been having a contention with some one about the date of the introduction of "interviewing" into journalism. The *Herald*, intervening, says that it began in 1866. But it attracted little attention until 1868, when it was used to draw talk from General Butler about his greenback crusade and from Charles Sumner about the Alabama question. This led to an article on "interviewing" in the *Nation* of January 28, 1869, which was the first formal notice of the practice under that name, and caused the adoption of the term both in this country and in England.

A unique contribution is about to be made to French literature. A number of famous writers are each to contribute an unpublished work to a little volume which is to be sold for the relief of the unemployed of Paris.

The "Questions of the Day" series, published by the Putnams, is assuming large proportions. Three new numbers are in the press, bringing the total up to twenty-five. The new numbers are "A Solution of the Mormon Problem," "Progress of the Working Classes During the Last Half Cen-

tury," and "Defective and Slovenly Legislation."

In "Prairie Experiences" (Orange Judd Company, New York), Major W. Shepherd, R.E., has produced a rather valuable book for intending herdsmen and stockraisers on our Western plains. Major Shepherd is one of the numerous Englishmen who have of late embarked in that business and who might better repay the opportunity the new world offers them of employment if not of fortune, than by abusing and making light of the Republic at every turn. Nothing pleases Major Shepherd in America except the chance given him to make money here. It is of no consequence; but a different tone might be more gracious under the circumstances. Yet he gives important information concerning the cattle industry and the management of herds, in points upon "outfits," suitable localities, conditions of living which the herdsmen may expect to encounter, live stock markets, &c. Altogether, it is a practical little book and it would have been all the better if it had been put into more readable shape by a competent book-maker. Not only are index and table of contents wanting, but the book is not even divided into chapters.

Mr. Frederick Hawkins has written an account of the French stage, from its origin to the death of Racine. He records the important dramatic productions of each year and notices each new playwright and actor, as he appears, with anecdotes and criticism. Messrs. Chapman & Hall publish the book.

Mr. William J. Rolfe has taken charge of a class in English literature in the New England Conservatory of Music, in Boston.

Prof. E. A. Freeman has collected a series of papers which he published in the *Pall Mall Gazette* a few years ago, and which attracted considerable attention, on the disendowment and dis-establishment of the English Church, and will publish them through MacMillan & Co.

The forthcoming issue of the revised version of the Old Testament will be an event of much importance in the trade; and public curiosity to see what changes have been made in the text will, no doubt, lead to a very large demand for the book. "It will, we presume," says the *London Bookseller*, "be simultaneously issued from the two University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge, and if similar arrangements to those made for the issue of the revised New Testament are again adopted, and if the book is ready in time for presentation to Convocation, it may be expected in May." Definite particulars relating to the publication may be looked for in a short time.

Mr. A. B. Starey has succeeded Miss Van Duyne as editor of *Harper's Young People*. Mr. Starey is an Oxford man and a writer of children's stories.

The *Verlags Anstalt*, of Stuttgart, will shortly issue the first attempt at prose fiction by the poet Wilhelm Jordan, the well-known translator of the *Nibelungenlied*, under the title of "Die Sebalds."

Charles Scribner's Sons will publish early in March another volume of Schaff's "History of the Christian Church," treating of mediæval Christianity from Gregory I. to Gregory VII. (590-1073).

The "Dictionary of English History," announced by Messrs. Cassell & Co., will be ready very soon. It is edited by Sidney J. Low, B. A., and F. S. Pulling, M. A., and will be issued in one large octavo volume of 1120 pages.

Mr. James Millington has translated from the French of the Viscount de Vegue "The True Story of Mazeppa." "To the average Englishman," says Mr. E. A. B. Hodgetts, writing of the book in the *Academy*, "the mention of Mazeppa conjures up before his

imagination a horse, a naked body lying on it, Astley's circus and Byron's poem. The average Russian, on the other hand, is reminded of Pushkin's beautiful romantic legend—of the old Cossack chief, enamored of his god-daughter, whom he is forbidden by the laws of his adopted country to marry, who returns his passion, and elopes with him. The terrible tragedy which follows, in which her father dies under the executioner's axe, is one of Pushkin's masterpieces. Neither the one nor the other thinks of Mazeppa, the statesman, the haughty exile, the crafty diplomatist, and, at last, the traitor and deserter."

#### ART NOTES.

Commenting on Mr. Whistler's proposed return to his native land several of our contemporaries speak regretfully of the influence of foreign study in inducing our young artists to expatriate themselves to become English, French, German, Italian—anything but American. It is true that there is a tendency among our younger literary men to divest themselves of their nationality, among other personal and professional qualities which they succeed in getting rid of, or reducing to an insignificant minimum, but this criticism is not justly applicable to young painters. Many of them remain abroad for years not only for the purpose of study, but for the reason that it is far easier to paint pictures and far easier to sell them, even to American buyers, in Europe than in America, but the instances where they have ceased to be American with strong home ties and warm patriotic sympathies are exceedingly rare. The papers above referred to usually cite Mr. George H. Boughton and Mr. William J. Hennessy as noticeable examples of American painters who have gone abroad to study and remained to become citizens of other countries, abandoning their native soil for the more congenial meads of merry England. This citation is erroneous and leads away from the point at issue. Mr. Hennessy was born in Ireland, of Irish parents, and Mr. Boughton was born in England, of English parents. Both came to America at an early age, but both also returned to Great Britain at an early age. They never were Americans, and although both retain very kindly feelings for this country, yet in leaving it they returned home, and in remaining absent they have stayed at home.

During the past week certain statements have appeared in the public prints unjustly reflecting on the management of the Academy of the Fine Arts, which, though of no importance in themselves, should not be allowed to stand without contradiction, as the character and repute of that institution may be to some extent involved. It appears, according to these statements, that one of the students has been allowed to open the lecture room during class hours, to assemble there all the pupils he could induce to come in, and then to entertain himself and them by what is virtually described by hints, nods and winks as a mock lecture on art. A strong case is outlined, indicating lack of direction, careless or incompetent management, slip-shod methods and a lamentable waste of students' time and opportunities. Now the facts are that the lecture referred to was the regular lesson of the day, given by the demonstrator of anatomy to his class and to other students who wanted to hear it. The lesson was of more general interest than usual, and a greater number of students desired to attend than the class room would accommodate. The lesson was therefore given in the lecture room by permission of the Academy authorities, obtained in the accustomed manner, as in such cases prescribed. It is true that the

lecturer is young, and it is also true that he is a student in the Academy school, but he is an authorized assistant in the department of instruction, approved by his superiors, considered capable as teacher, and on the occasion referred to was engaged in the orderly pursuit of his stated duties. The trouble seems to be that his lesson of that day attracted unusual attention and stirred up some little feeling among the students, who have not succeeded, so to speak, in becoming demonstrators of anatomy.

Miss E. L. Peirce and Miss Blanch Dillaye, of this city, are among the noted contributors to the current etching exhibition in New York. Miss Peirce's work is described as "individual, vigorous, and original," and also as "strong in drawing and assured in handling." Miss Dillaye's prints are commended for "delicacy of sentiment, refined treatment, and purity of line." The exhibition includes fine examples from Peter Moran, Stephen Parrish, Thomas Hovenden, Emily Sartain, C. H. Shearer, Jerome Ferris, and Katherine Levin, among others in whom Philadelphians are especially interested.

The first official recognition of Mr. Cleveland as President of the United States since the announcement of his election is said to occur in the exhibit made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department at New Orleans. Some time since the chief of that bureau wrote Governor Cleveland asking for a copy of his photograph so that an engraving of his head could be made for the exhibit of the bureau which was to be sent to the New Orleans Exposition. The collection contained vignettes of all the Presidents, and it was thought it would not be complete unless it contained that of Governor Cleveland, who will have been inaugurated before the Exposition is fairly underway. The photograph came shortly after, but it was found that there would not be time enough to make the engraving before the Exposition was to open. Under the circumstances, therefore, an artist was selected, Mr. Hatch, who made a fine India ink vignette, which was placed in the central space of the collection.

Mr. Cleveland's portrait as Governor of the State of New York is yet to be painted, and it is not decided what artist will be entrusted with the commission. The city of Albany has ordered a portrait, and Mr. Cleveland has consented to sit for it. The selection of the artist was in this case left to himself, and he has, with good judgment, selected Eastman Johnson, arranging to give the first sitting early next week. Mr. Johnson is a leading American artist, and easily the first portrait painter of our day.

After the most discouraging delays and postponements, the Art Department of the New Orleans Exhibition was finally opened on the 15th instant, though even after these months of waiting the galleries were not in good order or fully arranged. The Mexican collection is said to attract much attention, more from the interest attaching to the Aztec and Montezuma subjects than from artistic merit. The Belgian exhibit is full and well arranged, and includes many valuable works. The place of honor in the large gallery is given to Peter F. Rothermel's "Christian Martyrs," contributed by the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Most of the other Philadelphia pictures are hung in this gallery, and are generally well placed. An important consignment of pictures was some time since said to be on the way from England, but no mention is made of them as yet by the New Orleans papers.

The fourth annual exhibition of the Paint and Clay Club was opened on the 23d instant in the gallery of the Boston Art Club, and will continue three weeks. The private view for the press and profession was

given between 10 A. M. and 3 P. M., and the opening reception took place in the evening between 8 and 10 o'clock. The exhibition contains 120 works from twenty-six artists. Last year there were 133 works from twenty-five artists. The works of each exhibitor are hung in a group, as far as possible, and the effect is very good. There is hardly so much novelty in this year's exhibition as there was in that of a year ago, and the pictures generally are smaller, but the walls are fairly filled, and since no paintings are "skied" every member has a fair show. The clay end of the club is rather conspicuous by its absence, and Mr. D. C. French's bronze bust of Emerson smiles to itself alone. The collection, on the whole, is full of merit and interest, and develops many beauties on a close examination. It is not one-sided in any respect, and the portraits and figures divide the honors equally with the landscapes.

Over the mantelpiece in the library of Frederick Holden, of Washington, D. C., hangs an ancient portrait of his ancestor, Hon. Lewis Latham, Falconer to His Majesty Charles I. Lewis Latham was cousin to that gallant Earl of Derby and King of Man, who laid down his life for his King at Bolton on the Moor, and whose Countess, Isabella, distinguished herself by her defense of Latham House against the troops of Cromwell. Lewis Latham's daughter came with her second husband, Jeremiah Clarke, to the Colony of Rhode Island, and in that State many of her descendants still live.

An interesting discovery has been made by workmen engaged in excavations in the lobby of the French Huguenot Church in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral—a finely-chiseled head and fragments of stone, many of which are richly gilded, and in one of which remains a pearl. These reliefs are believed to be portions of the shrine of St. Dunstan, which were collected subsequent to the Reformation under the impression that they were rubbish, and then thrown into the Black Prince's Chantry, the present site of the French Church.

The statue to Alexandre Auguste Ledru-Rollin, the great advocate and jurist, was unveiled in Paris, 24th instant, before an immense throng of distinguished people. The proportion of Deputies and Senators among the spectators was large, and several Ministers of State were also present. In the dedicatory address M. Ledru-Rollin was eulogized as the "father of universal suffrage."

John Pettie, R. A., has just finished for the Academy spring exhibition in London what is described in the catalogue as "a three-quarter length portrait of Mr. Bret Harte, who is in a standing position and wears a coat trimmed with fur and a red neckcloth."

Mr. James Jackson Jarves writes from Rome: "Mr. William Story has just completed a second Cleopatra. His former idea was wrought more into a general type of a high-bred, beautiful Egyptian queen, and partakes of an abstractive, in which there is an intermingling of Grecian and Egyptian aesthetic elements, making it more representative of the country itself in her time than of the voluptuous, self-willed, unscrupulous woman herself, with her complex character and fascinations. His new Cleopatra is the result of quite another view of her. She now appears thoroughly individualistic and characteristic—the woman dominating the sovereign. The first sits in queenly state and costume; the second reclines half nude on a couch, with her head resting on her bent arm and hand, gazing intently at the spectator. A tiger's skin and head lie beneath her, adding to the effect of her piercing eyes and passion-fed

features, in whose depths are seen lurking all the powers of a woman's love or hate as nurtured under the fiery skies of Egypt."

Mr. Story has three children now growing to maturity of talent. Edith Story (Mme. Peruzzi) has just translated an Indian work; Waldo Story is a sculptor, and Julian Story a painter—both of them young men of promise, who have already recognized positions in art.

The March *Century* has followed the example of its recent predecessors and gone out of print,—this time within two days of issue. A second edition of 35,000 is on the press, making the total 225,000.

#### COMMUNICATION.

THE NATIONAL ART COMMISSION.  
To the Editor of THE AMERICAN.

In the last issue of THE AMERICAN I read that there has been some agitation in favor of the establishment of a sort of a commission to pass upon artistic work which the government is asked to purchase or order. And the suggestion is made that the former commission of artists established for this purpose may afford some precedents in the case. Allow me to state briefly the history of the commission referred to.

In 1858 the newly-enlarged Capitol at Washington was approaching completion, and the engineer in charge had projected extensive embellishments at the hands of Italian decorators, and it was also in contemplation to procure a number of historical pictures. A national convention of artists was called to meet in Washington, where a memorial to Congress was adopted and very largely signed. This memorial asked that a commission of three well-informed artists should be appointed by the President, who should be directed to prepare a scheme for the decoration of the Public Buildings, and whose approval should be necessary before any work be commissioned or purchased in future by any department of the government. Through the instrumentality chiefly of Mr. Sumner, in the Senate, and Judge Campbell, of Pennsylvania, in the House, a bill appointing such a commission was adopted, and the commission was appointed by the President, consisting of H. K. Brown, sculptor; J. R. Lambdin, portrait painter, and J. F. Kensett, landscape painter. This commission was in existence one year, during which time a comprehensive survey of all work already accomplished was made and a scheme for further embellishment of the Capitol was prepared. Of course, any movement of the sort will always meet with opposition from many sources, and it need not surprise us to hear that in the ensuing year, 1859, the appropriation asked for to meet the expenses of the commission was defeated. The war quickly followed and all art works were abandoned, and no attempt was made to revive the commission. But what was done once could be done again, probably, at least in a modified form, and the same mode of procedure—by means of a national convention of artists—would seem to be most promising of success. All experience, however, shows that legislative bodies are very unwilling to give into other hands than their own any part of their power, and it is probable that a commission in consultation with committees of the Houses of Congress would prove to be the utmost that could be obtained.

GEORGE C. LAMBDIN.  
Philadelphia, February 23.

#### MATTHEW ARNOLD'S LATER CONCLUSIONS.

*From the Nineteenth Century.*

I suppose I am not by nature disposed to think so much as most people do of "insti-

tutions." The Americans think and talk very much of their "institutions." I am by nature inclined to call all this sort of thing machinery, and to regard rather men and their characters. But the more I saw of America, the more I found myself led to treat "institutions" with increased respect. Until I went to the United States I had never seen a people with institutions which seemed expressly and thoroughly suited to it. I had not properly appreciated the benefits proceeding from this cause.

Sir Henry Maine, in an admirable essay which, though not signed, betrays him for its author by its rare and characteristic qualities of mind and style—Sir Henry Maine in *The Quarterly Review* adopts and often reiterates a phrase of M. Scherer, to the effect that "democracy is only a form of government." He holds up to ridicule a sentence of Mr. Bancroft's History, in which the American democracy is told that its ascent to power "proceeded as uniformly and majestically as the laws of being, and was as certain as the decrees of eternity." Let us be willing to give Sir Henry Maine his way, and to allow no magnificent claim of this kind on behalf of the American democracy. Let us treat as not more solid the assertion in the Declaration of Independence, that "all men are created equal, are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among them life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Let us concede that these natural rights are a figment; that chance and circumstance, as much as deliberate foresight and design, have brought the United States into their present condition, that moreover the British rule which they threw off was not the rule of oppressors and tyrants which declaimers suppose, and that the merit of Americans was not that of oppressed men rising against tyrants, but rather of sensible young people getting rid of stupid and overweening guardians who misunderstood and mismanaged them.

All this let us concede, if we will; but in conceding it let us not lose sight of the really important point, which is this: that their institutions do, in fact, suit the people of the United States so well, and that from this suitability they do derive so much actual benefit. As one watches the play of their institutions, the image suggests itself to one's mind of a man in a suit of clothes which fits him to perfection, leaving all his movements unimpeded and easy. It is loose where it ought to be loose, and it sits close where its sitting close is an advantage. The central government of the United States keeps in its own hands those functions which, if the nation is to have real unity, ought to be kept there; those functions it takes to itself and no others. The State governments and the municipal governments provide people with the fullest liberty of managing their own affairs, and afford, besides, a constant and invaluable school of practical experience. This wonderful suit of clothes, again (to recur to our image), is found also to adapt itself naturally to the wearer's growth, and to admit of all enlargements as they successively arise. I speak of the state of things since the suppression of slavery, of the state of things which meets a spectator's eye at the present time in America. There are points in which the institutions of the United States may call forth criticism. One observer may think that it would be well if the President's term of office were longer, if his Ministers sat in Congress or must possess the confidence of Congress. Another observer may say that the marriage laws for the whole nation ought to be fixed by Congress, and not to vary at the will of the Legislatures of the several States. I myself was much struck with the inconvenience of not allowing a man to sit in Congress except for his own district; a man like Wendell Phillips was

thus excluded, because Boston would not return him. It is as if Mr. Bright could have no other constituency open to him if Rochdale would not send him to Parliament. But all these are really questions of machinery (to use my own term), and ought not so to engage our attention as to prevent our seeing that the capital fact as to the institutions of the United States is this: their suitability to the American people and their natural and easy working. If we are not to be allowed to say, with Mr. Beecher, that this people has "a genius for the organization of States," then, at all events, we must admit that in its own organization it has enjoyed the most signal good fortune.

Yes; what is called, in the jargon of the publicists, the political problem and the social problem, the people of the United States do appear to me to have solved, or Fortune has solved it for them, with undeniable success. Against invasion and conquest from without they are impregnably strong. As to domestic concerns, the first thing to remember is that the people over there are at bottom the same people as ourselves—people with a strong sense for conduct. But there is said to be great corruption among their politicians and in the public service, in municipal administration and in the administration of justice. Sir Lepel Griffin would lead us to think that the administration of justice, in particular, is so thoroughly corrupt that a man with a law-suit has only to provide his lawyer with the necessary funds for bribing the officials, and he can make sure of winning his suit. The Americans themselves use such strong language in describing the corruption prevalent amongst them that they cannot be surprised if strangers believe them. For myself, I had heard and read so much to the discredit of American political life, how all the best men kept aloof from it, and those who gave themselves to it were unworthy, that I ended by supposing that the thing must actually be so, and the good Americans must be looked for elsewhere than in politics. Then I had the pleasure of dining with Mr. Bancroft in Washington; and however he may, in Sir Henry Maine's opinion, overlaud the pre-established harmony of American democracy, he had, at any rate, invited to meet me half a dozen politicians whom in England we should pronounce to be members of Parliament of the highest class, in bearing, manners, tone of feeling, intelligence, information. I discovered that in truth the practice, so common in America, of calling a politician "a thief," does not mean so very much more than is meant in England when we have heard Lord Beaconsfield called "a liar" and Mr. Gladstone "a madman." It means that the speaker disagrees with the politician in question and dislikes him. Not that I assent, on the other hand, to the thick-and-thin American patriots, who will tell you that there is no more corruption in the polities and administration of the United States than in those of England. I believe there is more, and that the tone of both is lower there; and this from a cause on which I shall have to touch hereafter. But the corruption is exaggerated; it is not the wide and deep disease it is often represented; it is such that the good elements of the nation may, and I believe will, perfectly work it off; and even now the truth of what I have been saying as to the suitability and successful working of American institutions is not really in the least affected by it.

Furthermore, American society is not in danger from revolution. Here, again, I do not mean that the United States are exempt from the operation of every one of the causes—such a cause as the division between rich and poor, for instance—which may lead to revolution. But I mean that comparatively with the old countries of Europe they are free from the danger of revolution; and

I believe that the good elements in them will make a way for them to escape out of what they really have of this danger also, to escape in the future as well as now—the future for which some observers announce this danger as so certain and so formidable. Lord Macaulay predicted that the United States must come in time to just the same state of things which we witness in England; that the cities would fill up and the lands become occupied, and then, he said, the division between rich and poor would establish itself on the same scale as with us, and be just as embarrassing. He forgot that the United States are without what certainly fixes and accentuates the division between rich and poor—the distinction of classes. Not only have they not the distinction between noble and bourgeois, between aristocracy and middle-class; they have not even the distinction between bourgeois and peasant or artisan, between middle and lower class. They have nothing to create it and compel their recognition of it. Their domestic service is done for them by Irish, Germans, Swedes, negroes. Outside domestic service, within the range of conditions which an American may in fact be called upon to traverse, he passes easily from one sort of occupation to another, from poverty to riches and from riches to poverty. No one of his possible occupations appears degrading to him or makes him lose caste; and poverty itself appears to him as inconvenient and disagreeable rather than as humiliating. When the immigrant from Europe strikes root in his new home, he becomes as the American.

It may be said that the Americans, when they attained their independence, had not the elements for a division into classes, and that they deserve no praise for not having invented one. But I am not now contending that they deserve praise for their institutions. I am saying how well their institutions work. Considering, indeed, how ripe are distinctions of rank and class in the world, how prone men in general are to adopt them, how much the Americans themselves, beyond doubt, are capable of feeling their attraction, it shows, I think, at least strong good sense in the Americans to have forbore from all attempt to invent them at the outset, and to have escaped or resisted any fancy for inventing them since. But evidently the United States constituted themselves, not amid the circumstances of a feudal age, but in a modern age; not under the conditions of an epoch favorable to subordination, but under those of an epoch of expansion. Their institutions did but comply with the form and pressure of the circumstances and conditions then present. A feudal age, an epoch of war, defense and concentration, needs centres of power and property, and it reinforces property by joining distinctions of rank and class with it. Property becomes more honorable, more solid. And in feudal ages this is well, for its changing hands easily would be a source of weakness. But in ages of expansion, where men are bent that every one shall have his chance, the more readily property changes hands the better. The envy with which its holder is regarded diminishes, society is safer. I think, whatever may be said of the almighty dollar in America, it is indubitable that rich men are regarded there with less envy and hatred than rich men are in Europe. Why is this? Because their condition is less fixed, because government and legislation do not take them more seriously than other people, make grandees of them, aid them to found families and endure. With us, the chief holders of property are grandees already, and every rich man aspires to become a grandee if possible. And therefore an English country gentleman regards himself as part of the system of nature; government and legislation have invested him so to do. If the price of wheat

falls so low that his means of expenditure are greatly reduced, he tells you that if this lasts he cannot possibly go on as country gentleman; and every well-bred person among us looks sympathizing and shocked. An American would say: "Why should he?" The Conservative newspapers are fond of giving us, as an argument for the game laws, the plea that without them a country gentleman could not be induced to live on his estate. An American would say: "What does it matter?" Perhaps to an English ear this will sound brutal; but the point is that the American does not take his rich man so seriously as we do ours, does not make him into a grandee; the thing, if proposed to him, would strike him as absurdity. I suspect that Mr. Winans himself, the American millionaire who adds deer-forest to deer-forest, and will not suffer a cotterie to keep a pet lamb, regards his own performance as a colossal stroke of American humor, illustrating the absurdities of the British system of property and privilege. Ask Mr. Winans if he would promote the introduction of the British game laws into the United States, and he would tell you with a merry laugh that the idea is ridiculous, and that these British follies are for home consumption.

The example of France must not mislead us. There the institutions, an objector may say, are republican, and yet the division and hatred between rich and poor is intense. True; but in France, though the institutions may be republican, the ideas and morals are not republican. In America not only are the institutions republican, but the ideas and morals are prevailingly republican also. They are those of a plain, decent middle class. The ideal of those who are the public instructors of the people is the ideal of such a class. In France the ideal of the mass of popular journalists and popular writers of fiction, who are now practically the public instructors there, is, if you could see their hearts, a Pompadour or Du Barry regime, with themselves for the part of Fau blas. With this ideal prevailing, this vision of the objects for which wealth is desirable, the possessors of wealth become hateful to the multitude which toils and endures, and society is undermined. This is one of the many inconveniences which the French have to suffer from that worship of the great goddess Lubricity to which they are at present vowed. Wealth excites the most savage enmity there, because it is conceived as a means for gratifying appetites of the most selfish and vile kind. But in America Faublas is no more the ideal than Coriolanus. Wealth is no more conceived as the minister to the pleasures of a class of rakes than as the minister to the magnificence of a class of nobles. It is conceived as a thing which almost any American may attain, and which almost every American will use respectfully. Its possession, therefore, does not inspire hatred, and so I return to the thesis with which I started—America is not in danger of revolution. The division between rich and poor is alleged to us as a cause of revolution which presently, if not now, must operate there, as elsewhere; and yet we see that this cause has not there, in truth, the characters to which we are elsewhere accustomed.

A people homogeneous, a people which had to constitute itself in a modern age, an epoch of expansion, and which has given to itself institutions entirely fitted for such an age and epoch, and which suit it perfectly—a people not in danger of war from without, not in danger of revolution from within—such is the people of the United States. The political and social problem, then, we must surely allow that they solve successfully. There remains, I know, the human problem also; the solution of that, too, has to be considered; but I shall come to that hereafter.

My point at present is that, politically and socially, the United States are a community living in a natural condition, and conscious of living in a natural condition. And being in this healthy case, and having this healthy consciousness, the community there uses its understanding with the soundness of health; it in general sees its political and social concerns straight, and sees them clear. So that when Sir Henry Maine and M. Scherer tell us that democracy is "merely a form of government," we may observe to them that it is in the United States a form of government in which the community feels itself in a natural condition and at ease; in which, consequently, it sees things straight and sees them clear.

#### DRIFT.

Hon. John Bigelow contributes "Some Recollections of Charles O'Conor" to the March *Century*, from which we quote the following: "Mr. O'Conor never understood not because entirely reconciled to his want of success in public life. Why every one loved to recognize and do homage to his professional and personal supremacy, and so few cared to accept him as their political guide, was a problem which always puzzled him, and contributed not a little, I think, to weaken his faith in popular judgments. The true solution of it probably is that the very qualities which gave him his pre-eminence at the bar in a corresponding degree unfitted him for the representative duties of a statesman. He went so deeply into the philosophy of every subject that he naturally had little respect for the superficial and often puerile reasons which the mass of mankind would assign even for the best inspired actions. He could never pool his opinions in a committee or in any representative body, and be content, as every statesman, in a democracy at least, is required to be, with the resultant decisions of a majority. Thus it happened that in the convention of 1846, to which he was chosen more especially to secure his aid in remodeling our judiciary, he usually voted alone on committees, and opposed almost alone the constitution as finally adopted. The logic of his mind was so inexorable that he could not bow to those subtle forces or instincts which go to make up public opinion, nor recognize the soundness of Talleyrand's famous saying that 'There is one person wiser than Anybody, and that is Everybody.' He was so thoroughly loyal to the conclusions of his own mind when they had been deliberately formed that it seemed to him pusillanimous to surrender them to mere numbers or because of any possible consequences that might result to himself or others from adhering to them."

\*\*

"The Land of the False Prophet" is the title of the opening illustrated article in the March *Century*, by Gen. R. E. Colston, who was formerly a bey in the Egyptian service. From it we quote the following: "Khartoum is a city numbering between 50,000 and 60,000 people. Several European Consuls reside there. The American Consul was Azar Abd-el-Melek, a Christian Copt from Esneh, and one of the principal merchants. The European colony is small and continually changing; for Khartoum is a perfect graveyard for Europeans, and in the rainy season for natives also, the mortality averaging then from thirty to forty per day, which implies 3000 to 4000 for the season. Khartoum is the commercial centre of the Soudan trade, amounting altogether to \$65,000,000 a year, and carried on by 1000 European and 3000 Egyptian commercial houses. Drafts and bills of exchange upon Khartoum are as good as gold in Cairo and Alexandria, and vice versa. From official sources I learned that the city contained 3060 houses, many of

them two-storied, each having from 10 to 150 occupants. Stone and lime are found in abundance, and the buildings are, after a fashion, substantial, the houses belonging to rich merchants being very spacious and comfortable. There are large bazaars, in which is found a much greater variety of European and Asiatic goods than would be expected in such distant regions. In the spacious market-place a brisk trade is carried on in cattle, horses, camels, asses and sheep, as well as grain, fruit and other agricultural produce. Many years ago an Austrian Roman Catholic mission was established and liberally supported by the Emperor of Austria and by contributions from the entire Catholic world. It occupies a large parallelogram surrounded by a solid wall. Within this enclosure, in beautiful gardens of palm, fig, pomegranate, orange and banana, stand a massive cathedral, a hospital and other substantial buildings. Before the people of Egypt and the Soudan had been irritated by foreign interference, such was their perfect toleration and good temper that the priests and nuns, in their distinctive costumes, were always safe from molestation, not only at Khartoum, but even at El Obeid and the neighborhood, where the majority are Moslems and the rest heathens. It was stated some months ago that Gordon had abandoned the Governor's palace and transformed the Catholic mission into a fortress, its surrounding wall and massive buildings rendering it capable of strong resistance."

\*\*

Iridium is a metal which is likely to have a much more extensive employment than it now enjoys. Hitherto it has been chiefly used in alloy with osmium for tipping gold pens. But an American pen manufacturer has discovered that by fusing the metal at a white heat and adding phosphorous perfect fusion could be obtained, with all the hardness in the resulting material of the iridium itself. For mechanical applications this combination is exceedingly useful, as in the case of pen points; and its adaptability is being proved in many ways. Agate, which has hitherto been employed for fine chemical balances, is now giving place to iridium, which takes a finer edge and is not so liable to catch or break.

Hypodermic needles for surgical use are now made of gold and tipped with the iridium compound, which is not subject to corrosion like the old steel points, and it is also being largely applied to instruments for surveyors and engineers and to electrical apparatus. Iridium can be obtained somewhat abundantly from the Russian platinum mines in the Ural, and it is found in combination with gold in California. Mr. Dudley, of Cincinnati, is engaged on experiments with the object of plating vessels with iridium, and as the metal resists the action of acids, it is likely that such vessels will be very useful in many chemical operations.

*—Chem. and Drug.*

\*\*

The average exportation of bullion and coin from Mexico for the five fiscal years ending June 30, 1883, was \$21,896,047.60. For the fiscal year ending June 30th it was \$29,628,657.69; for that ending June 30, 1884, it was \$33,473,283.30.

\*\*

A year before his election, General Garfield could have been seen gayly sauntering along Pennsylvania avenue, laughing, talking, nodding his head to this acquaintance and to that, without any obstruction to his progress in the shape of a sidewalk reception. Those who did not know him personally were familiar with his face and name. The ladies had heard his eloquence in the House—the street urchins had seen him at the base ball grounds, shouting,

with the eagerness of a boy, his pleasure or dissatisfaction as the same progressed. While a member of the House he often took occasion to run out into the suburbs of the city to witness this exciting sport. I remember one afternoon when he reached the stand erected on the grounds a few minutes after I did. I was leaning against the front rail of the platform, and, clapping me on the shoulder, he asked, "Who's ahead?" I gave him the information, and he thereupon became so interested in the game that he seemed unaware that his heavy weight upon my little body was, to say the least, inconvenient. He was constantly exclaiming: "Good catch!" "Fine hit!" "Oh! what a mif!" and other well-known extracts from base ball language, and he soon grew so excited as to make me feel the effects. I thought it wise to move to a place of safety, and I finally succeeded in edging away through the crowd.—*St. Nicholas.*

\*\*

Mr. "Blank of Blank," in Yorkshire, had a fever about Christmas time, and his parrot was taken from the dining room to the kitchen for greater quiet. It remained there several weeks, during which it stole the raisins intended for a plum-pudding. The cook in anger threw some hot grease at it and scalded its head. When Mr. Blank got better the parrot's cage was taken upstairs again. Mr. Blank, with newly-shaved head, approached. The parrot turned one eye upon him and said slowly: "You bald-headed ruffian! So you stole the cook's plums!" There may have been some appropriateness in the mind of Dean Stanley's parrot on a memorable occasion. While the lamented Dean was a canon at Canterbury, a gentleman who was invited to breakfast found all the servants assembled in the garden gazing up at a laburnum in which the parrot was at large. At that moment the canon came out. The parrot looked down at him and said in a low but distinct voice, exactly like Stanley's, "Let us pray!" Hers is a clear example to prove that something very like a thought passed through his mind. The servants were assembled as he had seen them assemble for morning prayers. They were standing as they stood when the lesson had been read, and they were about to kneel; and the parrot said exactly what was always said under such circumstances. Perhaps the most curious of these examples is one which comes to us from a private bird fancier. A gray parrot was stationed in a nursery, where his greatest delight was to see the baby bathed. An infantile complaint seized the child, and the parrot was removed to the kitchen. There, after a time, he set up a terrible cry. "The baby! The dear baby!" All the family rushed down, to find the parrot in the wildest excitement watching the roasting of a sucking pig.

Dr. Russ judiciously advises that a young and untaught bird should be placed beside one which is tame and talks well. He tells a curious story of a Grey which taught a young Amazon. When the pupil did not learn his words correctly, the Grey would say, "Blockhead," and turn away contemptuously. Yet Cuvier thought there was no intelligence and no power of transmitting its accomplishments in the mind of the parrot. Eventually the Grey and the Amazon were able to converse. Rosa, the Grey, would say, "Have you any money?" to which Coco would reply, "No," in a sorrowful voice. Rosa would give the name of the Emperor, and Coco would ejaculate, "Long life to him!" A third parrot is described which talks but little, though it has other accomplishments, and is delighted at being dressed up as a doll and laid in a cradle.—*Saturday Review.*

It is a difficult matter to believe that those magnificent specimens of equine power, the Percheron and Clydesdale draught horses, should be derived from the same original stock as the Shetland pony. These little, hardy, obstinate, good-natured pets have been undergoing during a number of years a process of physical degeneration, which has reduced them to an average stature of forty to forty-eight inches, and often much less. They, like the oaks and firs of the island upon which they have been reared and bred, have become stunted in their growth by the peculiar conditions of their environment; while the other branch of the family has been interbred and selected and improved, with a view of producing the magnificent thoroughbreds which we now so often see in the business parts of our cities, and which are so often the pride of our State and country fairs and horse shows. In point of strength the pony probably stands ahead of the Percheron in proportion to its size, and wonderful stories are told in their native isle of their wonderful endurance and power.

## PRESS OPINION.

## MR. RANDALL AND THE NAVY.

*The N. Y. Tribune.*

It is very certain that the country needs a navy, but for that express reason it is the more necessary that whatever appropriations are made for the purpose of supplying that need shall be applied under the most stringent guarantees. Experience has proved that the ordinary safeguards against waste, extravagance, and blundering in naval construction are not sufficient. Yet Mr. Randall, whose zeal for public economy has burned so steadily hitherto, now asks Congress to mend matters by blindly intrusting unlimited power of expenditure to a virtually irresponsible Board. As if such a proposition were not sufficiently startling in itself, Mr. Randall brings it forward precisely at the moment when a Democratic administration is coming into power; that is to say, when a party whose conscience is atrophied by the long-unsatisfied lust of office is preparing to recoup itself in four years for the twenty years of official starvation which has sharpened its appetite to the point of absolute wolfishness. Truly this is an amazing plan which Mr. Randall has fathered. And he must have an equally amazing idea of the extent of public confidence in his party, to think that it will be received with joyful equanimity. If he had labeled it "A plan to establish a gigantic Democratic machine" the ultimate purpose of it could hardly have been more clear than it is. For nothing can be plainer than that the construction of ships is a subordinate part of the scheme, and that the main point aimed at is obtaining power to make unlimited drafts on the Treasury. Nobody can be so simple as to believe that this is the way to get a navy. Everybody must perceive that the ironclads Mr. Randall's plan contemplates the construction of are ironclad Democratic voters and "bosses." No doubt it would be very convenient to be able to pay campaign expenses under the guise of "the expenses of the Board and its awards," but this is not what the country wants.

And it must be said that better things were expected of Mr. Randall. Republicans may not have hoped much for the navy from a Democratic administration, but they did not think Mr. Randall would have lead the way in so audacious an assault on the Treasury; and seeing that even his well-tried economy has come to this under the demoralizing influences of the time, what can be looked for from the less conscientious and more impulsive and hungry Democrats who are now everywhere pressing to the front?

## AN EXPOSITION IN DISTRESS.

*The N. Y. Times.*

The Director General of the New Orleans Exposition has been in Washington some days bending all his energies to the effort for securing from Congress an appropriation of \$500,000 to save the Exposition from financial ruin. In form his application was for loan, but the House Committee on Appropriations has decided to submit to Congress a direct appropriation of \$300,000, it being well understood that there is no prospect of repayment. The managers are already indebted to the government for \$1,000,000, and if, when the period of the Exposition is nearly half gone, they are compelled to ask for aid to meet deficiencies already incurred and to carry the enterprise through, there is little chance of any surplus at the end with which to wipe out their indebtedness. The proposition for further aid has nothing to commend it but the distress into which the ambitious scheme has fallen. The Exposition is in many respects a grand one, and it would be a pity to see it overwhelmed in financial disaster, but it is difficult to refrain from pointing out some of the mistakes that have been made. At the same time it would be ungracious not to recognize the difficulties it has encountered, some of which could hardly have been foreseen.

In an enterprise of this kind very much depends upon the spirit of the community in which it is attempted. Many of the people of New Orleans are impressed with the idea that that city is destined to become a great commercial centre. They point to its situation commanding the outlet of the great Valley of the Mississippi, and forming a natural entrepot for trade with the countries upon the Gulf of Mexico and the Carri-

bean Sea, and to its railroad connections with all the distributing points of the South and West, as an evidence of its advantages. But whatever ground there may be for its hopes and expectations, it has not yet centred in itself the great interests that make a rich and bustling commercial city. It has neither the resources nor the spirit of an established emporium of the first rank. Very many of its people are not imbued with the spirit and ambition of those who looked upon the Exhibition as a means for promoting its material progress. The management, unfortunately, failed to enlist the sympathy and active aid of the business community as a whole. Perhaps it would not have been possible to do so; but the basis of the enterprise might have been much broader, and an attempt made at least to take into a scheme of active co-operation the leading men of all classes. Had their co-operation been enlisted by giving them voice and power in the management, no doubt their means would have been at command. But in point of fact there has been much dissatisfaction with the close corporation methods, and many of the wealthiest and most influential men have had no sympathy with the enterprise and have taken no part in it.

There seems also to have been a great deal of miscalculation. The amount of popular interest in the undertaking which has been displayed by the Southern people is far less than was counted upon. Those directly concerned in the display of the resources of the Southern States have done creditably, but the people at large appear to have contributed little to the success of the exhibition. Visitors have come chiefly from the North and West, and the interest felt throughout the country has not been equal to the needs of the enterprise. In making

preparations the original plans were greatly extended, without sufficient thought for the resources from which expenditures were to be met. There was more confidence than shrewd calculation and more daring than skillful management, and when the opening day came the funds were exhausted, with much remaining to be done for the completion of the work.

Perhaps the one grand difficulty which has brought the Southern Exposition into its present strait is to be found in the fact that it was not so much the product of Southern enterprise, industry and wealth as it was an effort to give a stimulus to these. It was not undertaken as an exhibition of what had been achieved but as an evidence of capabilities and an earnest of achievements yet to be made. In that view it was almost a necessity that it should be in an unusual measure dependent on outside interest and extraneous financial aid. The latter was not to be commanded and could not becomingly be asked for in advance, but the time seems to have come when its necessity is admitted. Now it is a question whether the matter is so much a concern of the people of the whole country that the government would be justified in assuming the greater part of the expense of the enterprise by contributing now to bring it out of financial embarrassment and place it on a footing that will carry it through.

The labor question looms up in the Jersey Legislature, agitated by such good friends of the workingman as set him the example of doing no work.—*Phila. News*

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**CHESTNUT ST. THEATRE.**—The Madison Square Theatre Co. with W. H. Gillette, "The Private Secretary."

**CHESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE.**—The Boston Ideal Opera Co. Monday night, "Martha;" Tuesday night, "Fanchonette" (first time here); Wednesday night, "Girofle-Girofia;" Wednesday Matinee, "Bohemian Girl;" Thursday night, "Patience;" Friday night, "Fra Diavolo;" Saturday night, "H. M. S. Pinafore;" Saturday Matinee, "Musketeers."

**WALNUT STREET THEATRE.**—Carrie Swain, "The Little Joker."

**HAVERLY'S THEATRE, BROAD ST.**—McCaull Opera Comique Co., "The Fledermaus" (The Bat).

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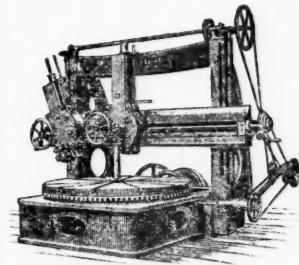
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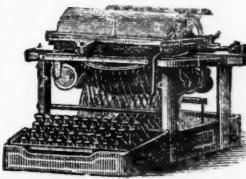


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Surplus over all liabilities, . . . . .	551,548 96

Total Assets, January 1st, 1884,

\$1,804,519.21.

## DIRECTORS:

T. H. MONTGOMERY,	CHAS. W. POULTNEY,
JOHN WELSH,	ISRAEL MORRIS,
JOHN T. LEWIS,	JOHN P. WETHERILL,
THOMAS R. MARIS,	WILLIAM W. PAUL,
PEMBERTON S. HUTCHINSON.	

THOMAS H. MONTGOMERY, President.  
ALBERT C. L. CRAWFORD, Secretary.  
RICHARD MARIS, Assistant Secretary.

## RAILROADS.

To New York      SHORTEST  
AND QUICKEST.

Philadelphia and Reading R. R.

MAY 11th, 1884.

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THE ONLY LINE RUNNING

A TWO-HOUR TRAIN  
BETWEEN THE TWO GREAT CITIES.

Double Track, Perfect Equipment, Prompt and  
Reliable Movement.New York, Trenton and the East, 7.30 (two-hour  
train), 8.30, 9.30, 11.00 (Fast Express) A. M., 1.15, 3.45,  
5.40, 6.45 P. M., 12.00 midnight, and for Trenton only  
9.00 P. M.Direct connection by "Annex" boat at Jersey City  
with Erie Railway and Brooklyn.Elizabeth and Newark, 8.30, 9.30, 11 A. M., 1.15, 3.45,  
5.40, 6.45 P. M., 12.00 midnight.Long Branch, Ocean Grove and Spring Lake, 9.30,  
11.00 A. M., 1.15, 3.45, 5.40 P. M., 12.00 midnight.Schooley's Mountains, Budd's Lake and Lake Hop-  
atcong, 8.30 A. M., 3.45 P. M.SUNDAY—New York and Trenton, 8.30 A. M., 5.30  
P. M., 12.00 midnight. For Newark, 8.30 A. M., 5.30  
P. M. For Long Branch, 8.30 A. M.Leave New York, foot of Liberty Street, 7.45, 9.30,  
11.15 A. M., 1.30, 4.30, 5.30, 7.00 P. M., 12.00, mid-  
night.

SUNDAY—8.45 A. M., 5.30 P. M., 12.00 midnight.

Leave Newark, 8.30 A. M., 5.30 P. M.

Leave Long Branch, 7.56 A. M., 4.33 P. M.

All trains stop at Columbia Avenue and Wayne Junc-  
tion.Parlor cars are run on all day trains, and sleeping cars  
on midnight trains, to and from New York.

Sleeping car open 10.30 P. M. to 7.00 A. M.

DEPOT, THIRD AND BERKS STREETS.  
New York and Elizabeth, 8.30, 8.20, 9.00  
10.30 A. M., 2.15, 3.30, 5.20, 6.30 P. M.Trenton, 5.10, 8.20, 9.00 A. M., 1.00, 3.30, 5.20, 6.30  
P. M.

Connect for Long Branch and Ocean Grove.

SUNDAY—New York and Trenton, 8.15 A. M., 4.30  
P. M.Ticket Offices: 624, 836 and 1351 Chestnut Street,  
and at the Depots.J. E. WOOTTEN,      C. G. HANCOCK,  
General Manager.      G. P. & T. A., Phila.

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